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FIELD CROPS

POTATO STOCKS

FLORIDA AGRICULTURE



March 15, 2000

POTATO STOCKS DOWN 2 PERCENT

March 1, 2000 potato stocks totaled 170 million cwt, down 2 percent from a year ago and 3 percent below two years ago. Storage accounted for 40 percent of fall production, down 1 percentage point from a year ago.

Disappearance from the start of harvest to March 1 totaled 251 million cwt this season, up slightly from last year and 5 percent above two years ago. February disappearance of 35.7 million cwt was 1 percent below last year and down 3 percent from two years ago. Seasonal shrink and loss of 25.7 million cwt was up 1 percent from last year and 20 percent above two years ago.

Processing of 1999 crop potatoes so far this season totaled 126 million cwt, down 2 percent from the 1998 crop but 6 percent above the 1997 crop. In February, processors used 19.6 million cwt of potatoes, up 1 percent from the last two years.

Eastern States stored 11.0 million cwt of potatoes on March 1, 2000, up 10 percent from a year ago but 9 percent below two

years ago. Maine's holdings were up 11 percent, Pennsylvania's were up 7 percent, and New York's stocks were the same compared with last year.

Central States accounted for 32.8 million cwt of potato stocks this March, down 16 percent from 1999 and 6 percent below 1998. North Dakota's stocks fell 35 percent from last year and Minnesota's stocks dropped by 30 percent. Michigan was up 2 percent and Wisconsin gained 6 percent from last year.

Western States held 126 million cwt of potatoes in storage on March 1, 2000, up 1 percent from last year but 2 percent below 1998. Oregon's stocks were up 22 percent from a year ago, but were mostly offset by a 5 percent decline in Washington and a 2 percent dip in Idaho. Stocks in the three Northwest States were up less than 1 percent from last year and accounted for 64 percent of U. S. stocks. Colorado's stocks were up 8 percent and Montana's were up 2 percent. California's potato stocks were up 13 percent from last year.

FALL POTATOES: Production and Stocks on March 1, 1999-00 ^{1/}

State	Crop of 1998			Crop of 1999		
	Production	Stocks Mar 1, 1999 ^{2/}	Percent of production	Production	Stocks Mar 1, 2000 ^{2/}	Percent of production
	1,000 cwt		Percent	1,000 cwt		Percent
California	3,708	1,600	43	4,005	1,800	45
Colorado	25,360	12,000	47	25,762	12,900	50
Idaho	138,000	66,000	48	133,330	65,000	49
Maine	18,060	8,450	47	17,813	9,400	53
Michigan	14,648	4,100	28	14,963	4,200	28
Minnesota	21,170	8,900	42	18,020	6,200	34
Montana	3,180	2,650	83	3,325	2,700	81
Nebraska	8,175			8,904		
New York	7,290	800	11	6,758	800	12
North Dakota	28,670	12,800	45	26,400	8,300	31
Ohio	1,200			987		
Oregon	26,229	13,000	50	28,020	15,900	57
Pennsylvania	3,360	700	21	3,080	750	24
Washington	93,225	29,500	32	95,200	28,000	29
Wisconsin	30,895	11,000	36	34,000	11,700	34
Other States		2,150			2,400	
Total 15 States	423,170	173,650	41	420,567	170,050	40

^{1/} Stocks include processor holdings and seed to plant 2000 crop. Seed usage in 1999 totaled 29.5 million cwt. ^{2/} Blank States combined into "Other States".

POTATOES: Quantity used for processing, eight States, 1996-99 ^{1/}

State	Crop year	To Dec 1	To Jan 1	To Feb 1	To Mar 1	To Apr 1	To May 1	To Jun 1 ^{2/}	Entire season
1,000 cwt									
Idaho and Malheur County, Oregon	1996	31,060	38,210	45,420	54,640	62,570	70,720		96,970
	1997	26,880	33,950	41,050	49,470	57,620	65,750		91,450
	1998	27,510	34,700	42,670	51,210	60,040	68,550	76,410	92,860
	1999	27,970	34,490	40,790	49,220				
Maine ^{3/}	1996	1,790	2,115	2,820	3,280	3,820	4,420		6,495
	1997	1,250	1,720	2,265	2,735	3,355	3,900		5,870
	1998	1,430	1,935	2,530	2,985	3,595	4,180	4,705	5,945
	1999	1,375	1,670	2,310	2,995				
Washington and Other areas, Oregon	1996	31,670	36,660	41,700	48,740	55,570	62,320		80,970
	1997	28,580	33,990	38,690	46,400	53,720	59,780		76,930
	1998	33,630	38,890	45,650	53,290	60,930	67,180	74,190	83,730
	1999	33,440	39,620	45,500	53,350				
Other States ^{4/}	1996	13,720	17,000	20,645	24,085	27,650	30,830		43,100
	1997	11,645	13,960	17,115	19,905	23,515	26,365		37,842
	1998	11,615	14,550	18,150	20,900	24,710	27,855	31,635	37,662
	1999	11,785	14,495	17,295	19,970				
Total	1996	78,240	93,985	110,585	130,745	149,610	168,290		227,535
	1997	68,355	83,620	99,120	118,510	138,210	155,795		212,092
	1998	74,185	90,075	109,000	128,385	149,275	167,765	186,940	220,197
	1999	74,570	90,275	105,895	125,535				

^{1/} Total quantity received and used for processing regardless of the State in which the potatoes were produced. Amount excludes quantities used for potato chips in ME, MI, MN, ND, and WI. ^{2/} Data not available prior to 1998. ^{3/} Includes Maine grown potatoes only. ^{4/} MI, MN, ND, and WI.

FALL POTATOES: Production and Stocks, 15 Major States, 1990-99

Crop Year	Production	Dec 1	Jan 1	Feb 1	Mar 1	Apr 1	May 1	Jun 1 ^{1/}
1,000 Cwt								
1990	344,200	225,500	194,460	162,850	134,470	101,150	63,040	
1991	363,541	242,070	211,005	178,515	145,820	108,865	69,110	
1992	368,516	246,820	215,990	184,560	152,795	115,785	75,040	
1993	376,954	249,410	217,300	185,490	153,435	115,170	72,860	
1994	410,839	273,290	238,560	202,470	169,570	129,825	87,600	
1995	394,785	256,710	223,550	189,360	156,020	115,855	75,870	
1996	443,704	295,100	261,320	226,080	189,210	147,635	103,210	
1997	413,513	278,830	246,550	212,562	175,870	134,190	92,840	
1998	423,170	280,910	246,230	209,640	173,650	131,220	87,895	50,270
1999	420,567	274,370	238,160	205,780	170,050			

^{1/} Data not available prior to 1998.